

For Immediate Release

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Brookfield, WI - School Choice Wisconsin (SCW) President Jim Bender will step down at the end of the year and launch a new business, Bender Consulting, LLC. SCW will begin immediately to recruit a new president, according to SCW board chair Susan Mitchell.

“Jim led SCW through a decade of major growth in programs, participating schools, and students,” Mitchell said. “Thanks to his leadership, the number of programs has quadrupled, participating schools have tripled, and the number of students served has more than doubled,” she said.

The pandemic has shown parents the value of the freedom to choose the education best for their children. The SCW board has developed a plan to work with Bender’s new firm to both maintain continuity with existing programs and to usher in a new era of parental empowerment.

“I take great pride in the enormous gains we made in Wisconsin’s school choice programs and look forward to continued work with SCW in a very exciting time in education,” Bender said.

Mitchell is the founder and former president of SCW. She has worked nationally and in Wisconsin to expand parental freedom in education. “Wisconsin pioneered a school choice movement that has gone national. Here and elsewhere research documents positive gains in academic achievement and future life prospects,” she said.

The search for a new president will be conducted by Talent Market under the leadership of Claire Kittle Dixon. Interested persons should contact her at claire@talentmarket.org.